

SECRET

From: [] Report No: ~~WPA 642~~ Local File No: _____
No. of Pages: Two No. of Enclosures: None
Report Made By: [] Approved By: []
Distribution:
By copy to: Washington (3)
[] (2)
[] (1) Orally to: [] Name
Subject : Activities of the Grand Mufti and
His Adherents

Source Cryptonym: [] References: None
Source, Operational Data, and Comments:



DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 382B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

Classification

SECRET

REGISTRY COPY

SECRET

Subject : Activities of the Grand Mufti and His Adherents Report Number : RLB-642
Place Acquired : Beirut, Lebanon Date of Information : August 1948
Evaluation: B-2 and C-3 Date Acquired : 23, 30 August 1948
Source : Para 1 Date of Report : 7 September 1948
 Para 2-7

1. While he was staying at the Hab'a al-Shugayf Hotel near Bhamdun, Hajj Amin HUSAYNI held a number of meetings to discuss the Palestine question and plans for a revolt against the Hashimites. Those who attended the meetings, in spite of the presence of Surete members, included Lutfi al-KHAYRAT, former Syrian Prime Minister; Habib al-AZHARAH, Vice-President of the Syrian Committee for the Defense of Palestine; Ahmad al-KHAYRAT, President of the Veterans' Association and Syrian Chief of General Staff; Maslud Pasha MUKALLIF, President of the Iraqi Senate; Sheikh Muhammad Mahdi QAILANI; Rajai al-MADAYHI; and Ishaq JAWAD.

() 30 August 1948; B-2)

2. In a discussion which took place in the house of Sadi SHAWWA at which Hilmi 'ANDUSHI, two Palestine Arab leaders, and Dr. Muhammad KHALID, son of the Mufti of Lebanon, were present, it was said that the Grand Mufti has sent a two man delegation to STALIN asking Russian support for the Arabs of Palestine.

3. At a meeting in the house of the Syrian Minister of Finance, Hajj Mohammed al-HAMMAMI, Sabri al-QASIMI, Alyan KHAYRAT, Safid al-Fattah al-NIMANI, Wasif KANANI, HAFIZ KANANI, Abdullah al-KHAYRAT, Khalid al-KHAYRAT, Mustafa ABDU-L-ATAI, Mohamed KHALIL, and Rajai al-MADAYHI, announced that they had formed a group of Syrians, Palestinians, and Circassians in Damascus to assassinate King ABDALLAH. (continued in para 5 of report KHALIL)

4. The Grand Mufti set a group in the house of Muhammad al-MUHAMMADI, including Muhammad Rustum ZARRARAH, head of the Muslim Youth Organization; Mina KHALIL and Samiyya DAYDUH, head of the Tuliah Youth Organization, and asked them to continue to recruit young men for Palestine.

5. The Grand Mufti visited the Mufti of Lebanon and told him that Romania, Yugoslavia, and Czechoslovakia will supply arms and ammunition for use in Palestine. The Mufti added that Russia was back of this program, and would also supply arms if the Arab States come to an agreement with her.

REGISTRY COPY

201-314-1

SECRET

Page 2.

P1B-642

6. A special invitation meeting was held in Damascus in the house of Abd-al-Muhsin SHAMANI, attended by about 100 notables, including religious and quarter leaders. SHAMANI made a speech encouraging killing the Jews and seizing their money and property for the use of Arab Palestinian refugees.
7. Another meeting took place in Shtaura last week in the house of Fahri al-JAMIL, which was attended by several Iraqis and several Syrians, including Bashir al-JAMIL, Rida SHAMAH, Sa'id al-Wattah al-JAMAL, and several Lebanese, including Abd-al-Baqi Hammoud SHATILLA. The discussion stressed strong anti-ARMALIAN propaganda, open ATTACK against the Jews, and taking over their money and properties in Syria, Lebanon and other Arab States.

() 23 August 1948; 6-3

SECRET